6. *Facility to ED employees Attending All India conference of tht unions as delegates.*— It has been decided that fhe cost of substitute employed in place of an ED employee who is elected as delegate to attend the All India Conferences of the Unions representing ED Employees will be borne by the Department. This will be subject to the condition that the cost of substitute will b$_e$ limited to 2 ED delegates from each circle.

Upgradation of Branch Office into Extra Departmental Sub-office

1604. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Governments consideration to upgrade the Branch Office into Extra Departmen tal Sub Office where the workload of Branch Office exceeds 8° paints;

(b) if not, what are the reaso% therefor; and

(c) in what manner Government would compensate the Branch Post Master for performing duty beyond 80 points in a month?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The upgrading of an extra-departmental branch office (EDBO) as an extra-departmental sub office **(EDSO)** is **governed by** a **separate** standard which **pres*** cribes a minimum workload of 4 hours **for the EDBO proposed to be upgraded. The workload is computed as per Marathe Time Test which is quite different from** the **'points' system adopted for remuneration of branch postmasters. 544** ***K.9.—S***

(c) **In** such cases upgrading of **the** EDBO either as an EDSO or a .departmental sub office (DSO) is considered subject to standards fixed for the respective category of offices being fulfilled. If not feasible, opening of another branch office in the area,- subject to fulfilment of norms, can also be considered.

Recruitment of E. D. Employees

1605. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Extra De partmental employees category-wise re cruited during the last three years ending the 30th lune, 1989; and

(b) what is the number of pensionem and school teachers, working as Extra Departmental employees as on 30th June 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the TaMe of the House.

Meetings with fhe Bhartiya Postal Employees Federation

1606. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNI-TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether periodical meetings at **All India level are being held with the Bhartiya Postal Employees Federation- and** [f]